IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 10 and 12 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9 and add new Claims 27 and 28 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

an input unit for inputting ~~first~~ video image data ~~and icon image data~~;

an icon image generation unit for generating icon image data;

a control ~~determining~~ unit for determining a display position of the icon image; ~~and~~

a display control unit for superimposing one of the ~~first~~ video image and the icon image on the other and displaying the ~~first~~ video and icon images on ~~a monitor~~ display means such that the icon image is positioned in the display position determined by the ~~determining~~ control unit[[,]];

a synchronous signal transform unit for transforming a synchronous signal,

wherein the ~~determining~~ control unit determines successively a plurality controlling the icon image generation unit and the synchronous signal transform unit so as to read, from the icon image generation unit, the icon image data based on a transformed synchronous signal with a predetermined delay time ~~according to a predetermined shift pattern selected among a plurality of shift patterns based on an accumulated display time at each shift~~

~~pattern, and wherein the plurality of display positions are within a range of 1 to 5 pixels from a predetermined position~~.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an instruction unit for instructing display of the icon image on the monitor,

wherein the ~~determining~~ control unit determines a display position of the icon image according to an instruction by the instruction unit.

Claim 3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a storage unit for calculating and storing the accumulated display time in respective display positions determined by the ~~determining~~ control unit,

wherein the ~~determining~~ control unit determines that a position where the accumulated display time is minimum among the respective display positions is a display position of the icon image.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an image generation unit for generating an object image,

wherein the display control unit controls display such that the object image generated by the image generation unit is superimposed on the ~~first~~ video image as the icon image and displayed.

Claim 6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an image size conversion unit for expanding or reducing the icon image,

wherein the display control unit controls display such that the icon image expanded or reduced by the image size conversion means is superimposed on the ~~first~~ video image.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 7,

wherein the image size conversion unit expands or reduces the ~~first~~ video image, and the display control unit displays the ~~first~~ video and icon images expanded or reduced by the image size conversion unit on an identical screen of the display means.

9. (Currently Amended) An image processing method, comprising:

an input step for inputting ~~first~~ video image data ~~and icon image data~~;

an icon generating step for generating icon image data;

a control step ~~determining step~~ for determining a display position of the icon image; ~~and~~

a display control step for superimposing one of the ~~first~~ video image and the icon image on the other and displaying the ~~first~~ video and icon images on a monitor such that the icon image is positioned in the display position determined by the ~~determining~~ control step;

a synchronous signal transform step for transforming a synchronous signal,

wherein ~~in the determining step, determining~~ the control step successively determines a plurality of display positions different from each other as display positions of the icon image by controlling the icon image generation step and the synchronous signal transform step so as to read the generated icon image data based on a transformed synchronous signal with a predetermined delay time ~~according to a predetermined shift pattern selected among a plurality of shift patterns based on an accumulated display time at each shift pattern, and wherein the plurality of display positions are within a range of 1 to 5 pixels from a predetermined position~~.

Claims 10-26. (Cancelled).

27. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

an input unit for inputting video image data;

an icon image generating unit for generating icon image data;

a control unit for determining a display position of the icon image;

a display control unit for superimposing one of the video image and the icon image on the other and displaying the video and icon images on a monitor such that the icon image is positioned in the display position determined by the control unit;

a memory unit for storing the video and the icon image data; and

an address transforming unit for transforming address data,

wherein the control unit determines successively a plurality of display positions different from each other as display positions of the icon image by controlling the memory unit and the address transforming unit so as to write the icon image data to the memory unit with a predetermined amount of shifted address.

28. (New) An image processing method, comprising:

an input step for inputting video image data;

an icon image generating step for generating icon image data;

a control step for determining a display position of the icon image;

a display control step for superimposing one of the video image and the icon image on the other and displaying the video and icon images on a monitor such that the icon image is positioned in the display position determined by the control step;

a memory step for storing the video and the icon image data; and

an address transforming step for transforming address data,

wherein the control step determines successively a plurality of display positions different from each other as display positions of the icon image by controlling the memory step and the address transforming step so as to write the icon image data to the memory unit with a predetermined amount of shifted address.